

PATENT APPLN. NO. 09/889,168
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

PATENT
NON-FINAL

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A battery capable of being removably mounted in a coupling surface of a video camera or in an adapter plate mounted in said coupling surface and capable of having ~~another of said battery joined thereto~~ being joined to a second battery having a structure corresponding to that of said battery, said battery comprising a front cover and a rear cover and a battery pack enclosed by said covers, said rear cover being provided with a substantially V-shaped recess in its surface, said V-shaped recess having a top portion formed by a V-shaped engagement plate having a dovetail cross-section, and said rear cover being provided with a pair of vertically extending guide grooves provided adjacent outside edges of said rear cover above said V-shaped engagement plate; said front cover being provided with a V-shaped protrusion on its surface corresponding to the V-shaped recess in said rear cover and a pair of guide projections provided adjacent outside edges of said front cover and opposite the guide grooves provided in said rear cover, said guide projections sandwiching a pair of signal terminal parts, said V-shaped protrusion having a V-shaped receiving groove for receiving and forming a dovetail joint with ~~the V-shaped~~ a V-shaped engagement plate of ~~another of~~ said second battery and

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corresponding to a V-shaped receiving groove provided in the coupling surface or in the adapter plate mounted in the coupling surface of the video camera to which said battery is to be mounted and said pair of guide projections being adapted to be inserted into said pair of guide grooves.

2. (currently amended) A battery as defined in claim 1, wherein a circuit for outputting a self-capacitance, ~~a terminal~~ an input terminal capable of inputting a self-capacitance output from said ~~another of said~~ second battery, and an averaging circuit for averaging an output of the self-capacitance output circuit and an input from the input terminal to produce an output are built into the battery, and wherein a release button and slide covers for covering terminals for electrical connection to an adapter plate mounted in said video camera are provided on a top portion of said rear cover, said slide covers being adapted to engage said signal terminal parts.

3-4. (canceled)